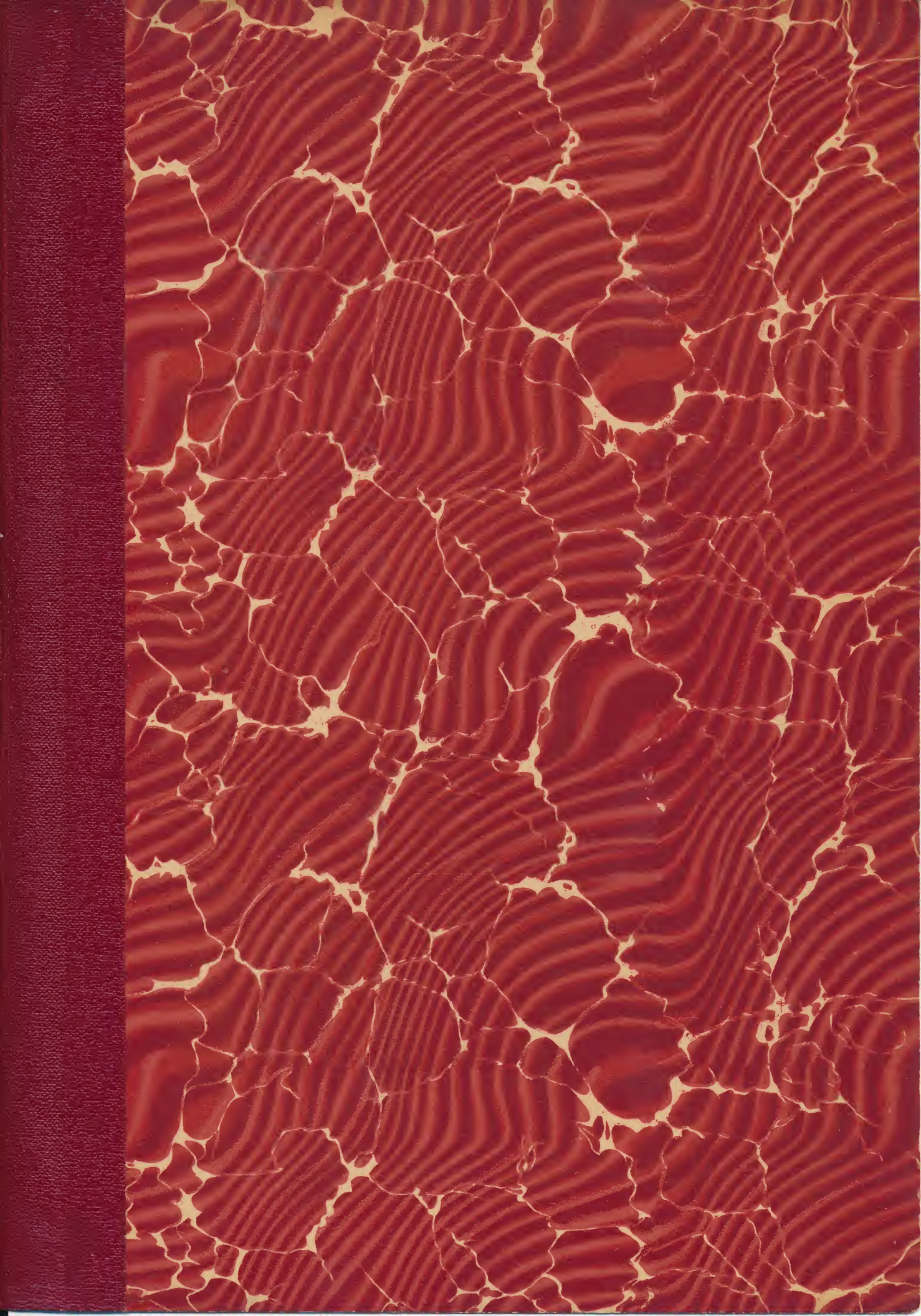


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HISTORICAL

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ROBERT JOHNS MERRILL

NEW YORK 1911



J. Ronald Edmonds

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John R. Edmonds

J O H N R O N A L D E D M O N D S

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John Ronald Edmonds was born in St. Louis, Missouri, March 23, 1901, son of Rose Horsfall and Thomas Ronald Edmonds, who was born in Edinborough, Scotland, August 3, 1873. Mrs. Thomas Edmonds, John Ronald's mother, was born in London, England, September 7, 1883, and died April 2, 1912, at Buffalo, Iowa, ten miles west of Davenport, Iowa.

In February 1906, the family moved to Morenci, Arizona, and in 1908, moved back to the Ozark Mountains, seventeen miles from Grandin, Missouri. In 1910, the family moved to a farm near Buffalo, Iowa, where they remained until 1917. They then moved to a farm six miles south of Aledo, Illinois, where they stayed until 1920.

Mr. Edmonds spent his boyhood days on the farm near Buffalo, Iowa, and attended the Buffalo Public School, where he graduated from the eighth grade. He also graduated from the Penn School of Commerce, Penn College, Oskaloosa, Iowa, in 1925, and attended the David Rankin Mechanical Trade School in 1920-21. The last named was in St. Louis, Missouri. While attending this last school he worked for the William

Young Car Company.

Mr. Edmonds's father married a second time on September 1, 1922, Helen McMillan. From 1922-1924, Ronald worked with his father on the farm.

January 13, 1926, Mr. Edmonds came to Kalamazoo to visit his sister Evelyn and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Sikkenga, and on February 22, secured employment with the old Harrow Spring Company on East Vine street. Three months later the company shut down for lack of orders. He then secured employment with Gilmore Brothers Department Store, operating one of the passenger elevators. Three months later, Mr. Edmonds accepted a position with Paul Barr, manager of the Hoover Bond Furniture Company, and remained with the company for two and one-half years. In May 1928, he engaged in the insurance business with Mr. Sidney R. Ketchum, district agent for the Citizen's Mutual Automobile Insurance Company.

Mr. Edmonds is an independent in politics. He is an official member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church and served as Scout Master of Troop No. 20, the Boy Scout Troop sponsored by the First Methodist Episcopal Church, for five years. He has always been interested in boys work and has taught a Sunday School Class of boys for many years. He has also

acted as Superintendent of the Junior and Intermediate Department of the Sunday School.

In 1931, Mr. Edmonds gave up the Boy Scout work in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, because of his business, and became District Commissioner of the Boy Scouts in the local council.

His favorite pastime is working with boys and he enjoys swimming, boating and fishing and he never misses an opportunity to take hikes and overnight camping trips with the Boy Scouts. He acted as one of the leaders on the first "Isle Royal Expedition" with the Boy Scouts in August 1936.

J. Ronald Edmonds and Hazel Irene Chandler, Aledo, Illinois, were united in marriage July 23, 1927, at the home of Mr. Edmonds's sister, Mrs. A. C. Sikkenga.

The above was written December 19, 1936.

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Adam Ehrman



A D A M E H R M A N

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Adam Ehrman was born in Mosbach, Baden, Germany, May 30, 1865, and came to the United States in 1883, at the age of eighteen, settling in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and finding employment on his uncle's farm.

He had always wanted to follow the hotel business and saved his money with which he acquired an interest in the Western Hotel located near the Michigan Central Railway tracks on North Rose street on the site later occupied by the "Little Statler."

In 1897 Mr. Ehrman disposed of his interest in the Western Hotel and acquired the property now known as the Columbia Hotel, but at that time was called Burke's Hotel and had been unoccupied for two years. It was a two story structure with twenty rooms. In 1910 an addition of forty rooms was built and in 1911 the Arlington Hotel next door was acquired.

When his son Frank was twelve years old he began clerking for his father in the hotel and in 1918 Adam Ehrman retired from the business and Frank took it over.

Mr. Adam Ehrman was a life-long Democrat; a charter member of the AUV of Kalamazoo and served as State President of that organization; a member of St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church, serving for about twelve years as a trustee; served as President of the Holy Name Society and was a generous worker in the St. Vincent De Paul Society. He belonged to the Elks and was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and was the owner and manager of several farms.

Mr. Ehrman was married in Kalamazoo in 1888 to Miss Barbara Schmidt, a native of Germany. They became the parents of four sons and one daughter: Frank, who succeeded his father as proprietor of the Columbia Hotel; John, proprietor of the Rickman Hotel; Carl, representative of the National Distillers; and Leo, proprietor of the Colony Club. The daughter Ruth died in infancy.

He also had twelve grandchildren: Mrs. Ruth Steinbauer; Mrs. Esther Landauer; Miss Barbara Ehrman; Frank Ehrman, Jr.; Margaret Mary Ehrman, deceased; Mrs. Evelyn Weissert; Mrs. Bette Noble; Miss Edith Ehrman; Miss Marjie Ehrman; Mary Grace Ehrman; Kelele Ehrman; and Michele Ehrman. He had three great grandchildren, Nancy Steinbauer, Thomas Landauer and Deane Weissert.

Mrs. Ehrman passed away in 1923 and in June 1925 Mr. Ehrman was married to Mrs. Suzanne Keller Hood, who was also a native of Baden, Germany, and came to this country at the age of eighteen. She died in February 1938.

In his later years Mr. Ehrman traveled considerably. On seven different occasions he returned for visits in his native Germany and in other European countries. He also spent many winters in Florida and summers at his country home near Richland, Michigan.

Death came to Mr. Ehrman July 31, 1940, at the age of seventy-five. Funeral services were held at St. Augustine's Church, the church to which he had given long and faithful service.

It might be said that the following prayer would typify the life of this man:

"Lord, let not my religion be
A thing of selfish ecstasy;
But something warm with tender care
And fellowship which I can share.

Let me not walk the other side
Of trouble's highway long and wide;
Make me a good Samaritan,
A neighbor unto every man."

Frank Ehrman



F R A N K L E H R M A N

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Frank L. Ehrman was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 12, 1888, son of Adam and Barbara Schmidt Ehrman of German descent. His early boyhood was spent on a farm near Comstock and Frank attended school some distance from his home. He had three brothers, John, Carl and Leo, and a sister who died in infancy.

In 1897 Adam Ehrman acquired the Columbia Hotel in Kalamazoo and the family moved there. Frank then attended St. Augustine's school and later Maher's Business College.

Frank's hotel experience began when he was but twelve years of age, clerking for his father in the Columbia Hotel.

He was married to Gertrude Carpenter October 27, 1907 and they became the parents of Ruth, Esther, Barbara, Frank, Jr., and Margaret Mary. Mrs. Ehrman passed away in March 1923 and her daughter Margaret Mary died in May 1941.

July 27, 1934, Mr. Ehrman was married to Mrs. Theresa McHugh and adopted her ten year old daughter Jacqueline. They continued to reside in the Columbia Hotel.

In 1918 Frank Ehrman took over the management of the Columbia Hotel and in 1922 he purchased his father's interest. In 1925 he had a seventy-five room addition constructed and in 1927-8 another fire-proof addition of sixty-four rooms, making a total of two hundred rooms with a banquet hall of seven hundred capacity and a new attractive lobby. To this enterprise he gave steady and continuous attention the remainder of his life, never leaving for any length of time except for a trip to Europe with L. W. Sutherland, in 1931.

Under his management the Columbia Hotel became the dining place for Rotary, Kiwanis and Exchange clubs and other organizations and the schools and colleges habitually held their social functions there.

In 1940 Mr. and Mrs. Ehrman entertained their employes at a Christmas party and dance and gave them and their families a banquet, Mr. Ehrman serving personally as chef. This function was widely noted by hotel men over the country.

Through the many patrons and guests of the Columbia Hotel Mr. Ehrman became well known to thousands of men and women of the United States and Canada and was held in high esteem by them.

Mr. Ehrman was a lover of horses and the out-of-doors. In April 1940 he acquired from Mr. W. H. Britigan the farm adjoining the Gull Lake Country Club, known as "Braeloch." Here he made a hobby of raising thorough-bred Ayrshire cattle and pheasants. He also raised wild Mallard ducks.

He belonged to the Rotary club, the Kalamazoo Traffic club, the Elks lodge and the United Commercial Travelers.

He was a fine friend, a genial host, a good father and husband and one of Kalamazoo's leading citizens.

Death came to Mr. Ehrman in Borgess Hospital February 2, 1942, at 11:30 A. M. He was survived by Mrs. Walter Steinbauer of Monroe, Michigan; Mrs. Edward Landauer of Battle Creek, Michigan; Barbara and Jacqueline Ehrman of Kalamazoo; private Frank J. Ehrman, Battery B, Coast Artillery, Camp Wallace, Texas; Mrs. Theresa Ehrman, Kalamazoo, and his three brothers, John, Leo and Carl Ehrman.

The high esteem in which Frank Ehrman was held in Kalamazoo is evidenced by the distinguished citizens whose friendship he enjoyed, including college presidents, educators, manufacturers, professional and business men.

Richard Haynes Ellerton



R I C H A R D H A Y N E S E L L E R T O N

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Richard Haynes Ellerton was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 7, 1917, the son of Maurice H. and Eva Fraker Ellerton of English descent.

Richard attended the West Main School, the Woodward Avenue School and Central High School and was graduated from the last named in 1935. He then spent two years in Western Michigan College of Education. After that he was employed by the Miller Lumber Company for about two years until he was drafted for the armed services of the United States April 10, 1942.

Richard had a brother, Kenneth Charles, born November 25, 1918. He enlisted February 2, 1942, in the 12th Air Corps and was in the Africa campaign of World War II and then in the Mediterranean Area.

Military Experience

Richard was inducted at Fort Custer, near Battle Creek, Michigan, and was then sent to Camp Wallace, Texas, for basic training for about two months. He was then transferred to Camp

Stoneman, California, point of embarkation, and in July 1942 was shipped to Hawaii with the 97th Anti-Aircraft Coast Artillery. There he was taken ill with intestinal obstructions and peritonitis and sent to a hospital in Honolulu.

The latter part of April 1943, he was brought by plane to Letterman Hospital in San Francisco, California. After about a month in that hospital he was transferred to Hammond General Hospital in Modesto, California, and his mother was with him there for two months. He was then taken to Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, where he died July 23, 1944. A military funeral was held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 25th, 1944, with a chaplain, Captain H. C. Richard, in charge.

Personal Characteristics

Richard Haynes Ellerton was six feet two inches tall and weighed about one hundred eighty-six pounds, with brown hair and eyes.

He made a hobby of target practice and enjoyed playing tennis. He was especially interested in architectural engineering, even pursuing a course while in Percy Jones Hospital. This was a course conducted by the University of Wisconsin. He also enjoyed swimming and canoeing.

In politics he was a Republican. As a lad he

Alameda, California, born at Berkeley, and is

July 1941 was assigned to Hawaii with the 1st
Post-Office Coast Division. There he was taken
up with international conventions and conferences
and sent to a hospital in Honolulu.

The latter part of April 1942, he was ordered
to board the transport hospital to San Francisco,
California. After about a week in that hospital
he was transferred to Lawrence James Hospital in
Honolulu, California, and his number was with him
there for the months. He was then taken to Army
Hospital, Santa Rosa, California, where he
stayed July 22, 1942. A military hospital was used
in Lawrence, Kansas, July 22, 1942, with a
hospital, Santa Rosa, California, in charge.

Personal Description

Richard James Johnston was six feet five inches
tall and weighed about one hundred twenty-five
pounds. His brown hair was wavy.
He wore a number of heavy glasses and enjoyed
playing tennis. He was extremely interested in
astronomical engineering, even taking a course
while in Army Jones Hospital. This was a course
conducted by the University of Wisconsin. He also
enjoyed reading and writing.
In politics he was a Republican. As a lad he

belonged to the Boy Scouts and he attended the First Congregational Church and Sunday school in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Richard was a good soldier and had many friends in and out of the armed services. He was very fond of his home and loved his parents and appreciated having his mother with him while ill in California. He also appreciated the almost daily visits of his parents while he was in Percy Jones Hospital for thirteen months.

He loved life, but he loved his country enough to give his life that freedom should not perish from the earth.

DeHuron Benton Ellwood





Mrs. DeHuron Benton Ellwood

Uretta Ellwood

Mrs. Ellwood

M R . & M R S .

D E H U R O N B E N T O N E L L W O O D

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DeHuron Benton Ellwood, generally known as "Hugh", was born in Comstock township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, October 24, 1858. He was the son of James and Nancy Strough Ellwood, who settled in Comstock township in 1855. They came from St. Lawrence county, New York, and DeHuron was the last surviving member of this pioneer family.

When James and Nancy Ellwood came to this farm in Comstock township, they found a log house ten by twelve feet with a wing and lived in it for eleven years, until 1866, when they built the present home, which was remodelled in 1941 and has housed three generations. Mrs. James Ellwood's brother, Daniel Strough, built the house. He also built the two barns, the first in 1858 and the second in 1861. One of these barns was used to hold the crop of hops, which was a major crop in those days.

This farm was bought by the Ellwoods from Robert and Denby Youngs, who had cleared but two acres of the land before they joined the "Gold Rush" for California and left the farm in the hands of a

lawyer named Alexander Buell, who was to sell it, so the Ellwoods never saw the original owners.

In the "Manuscript and History Section" of the New York State Library is the following record:

"Baldus Strauch (Strough) came from Hesse, Germany, in the year 1777. He was one of the hired Hessians in Burgoyne's army that was surrendered by him at Saratoga in 1777. Instead of returning to Germany he escaped and settled in Montgomery county, New York. About the year 1790, he settled in Manheim, Herkimer county, New York. He married Mary Catherine Ritter, a woman of German Palatine descent. Their children were: Jacob, Baldus, John, Nancy, Henry, Daniel and Matthias. Although the father spelled his name Strauch, as in Germany, all of the children spelled it Strough." This then is the beginning of the Strough family in America. One of the descendants of the Strough family was a Methodist minister. Later the Stroughs became Unitarians.

The original name of the Ellwood family is said to have been "Ethelwalde." James Wilson Ellwood's father, General Isaac Ellwood, was a native of Montgomery county, state of New York, and was a Colonel in the War of 1812, being under Jacob Brown at Sackett's Harbor. Later he was appointed

General. He died at the age of fifty-five in Morristown, New York.

The father of General Isaac Ellwood and the great grandfather of DeHuron Benton Ellwood, the subject of this biography, was Isaac Ellwood, Sr., who fought in the War of the Revolution and was wounded in the shoulder.

The father of Isaac Ellwood Sr., emigrated from his native county of Kent, England, to the United States of America, in company with two brothers, at the time of the French Revolution, and located in the state of New York.

Annie Wilson Ellwood, grandmother of DeHuron Benton Ellwood, was born of Scotch parents in the state of New York and became the wife of Isaac Ellwood, Jr., in Montgomery county, New York.

James Wilson Elwood, father of DeHuron Ellwood, and son of Isaac Ellwood, Jr., at the age of thirteen accompanied his parents from Montgomery county to St. Lawrence county, New York, where Isaac, Jr., died when James was eighteen years of age. The Ellwoods in earlier days favored the Episcopal Church but later leaned toward the Unitarians.

James and Nancy Strough Ellwood arrived in Michigan January 2, 1855, and settled on the farm in

section 30, Comstock township, where they endured all the hardships of pioneering, but gained a comfortable home and a good living. Two of their children were born in the state of New York and came with them to Michigan: They were:

Joseph Marvin, born November 5, 1849, married Helen M. Cooper November 9, 1872, and they became the parents of Edith Claire, Marlin Cooper, ~~D. Hugh J.~~ & Otto Sumner; and

Mary Catherine, born March 20, 1853.

After they came to Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. James Ellwood became the parents of:

DeHuron Benton, the subject of this biography;

Gibson Sumner, born February 13, 1861, married January 5, 1892, Aurilla Elizabeth Wilson and they became the parents of Loren James, Dow Warner and two daughters, all of whom died in infancy, and Maxine, who was born May 17, 1907 - Gibson died June 20, 1910, and his widow and Maxine reside in Kalamazoo;

Helen Augusta, born July 2, 1863, while the Battle of Gettysburg was raging; and

Imogene Estelle, born January 27, 1866.

DeHuron Benton Ellwood attended the school near his home in the Maple Grove community and took work as a student in the Preparatory Department of Kalamazoo College.

August 11, 1885, he was married to Miss Uretta Nelson of Kalamazoo, Michigan, by the Reverend Mr.

Hunting. Uretta Nelson was born at the corner of Portage and Vine streets in Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 6, 1861, daughter of Alexander Nelson, who was born in Herkimer county, state of New York, about 1829 and died in 1899, and Ella Louise Wright Nelson, who was born in Utica, New York, and was reared in the home of the mother of Alexander Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Nelson were also the parents of:

Andrew, who married Louise Timm, became the father of Lawrence, lived in New Buffalo, Michigan, and is deceased;

Bessie, who married George Milham and lives near Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Cora, deceased;

George, deceased;

Frank, deceased;

Florence, married Glenn Wynn and died March 22, 1943;

Edna, married George Brown, who is deceased, and she lives near Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. DeHuron Benton Ellwood lived for a short time with his parents and then moved to the old William Nelson farm a mile west of the Ellwood farm. They became the parents of:

Nelson James, born October 31, 1891, was graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School in 1908 and from Kalamazoo College in 1912 and resides on the old homestead;

Millard Marvin, born September 3, 1894, attended Comstock High School, married February 12, 1919, Violet Solomon, who was born December 21, 1898; they were married by

the Reverend A. M. Gould, became the parents of Joyce Virginia November 9, 1919, and reside at Galesburg, Michigan;

Maude Winnifred, born June 9, 1900, was graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School in 1918, and from Kalamazoo College in 1922, taught in Constantine High School for two years, was graduated from Library School at Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts, in 1925, was employed as Librarian at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, and at Kansas Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas, and then became head Librarian at the Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan.

In 1888, Mrs. Uretta Ellwood was seriously injured in a runaway accident, suffering a broken arm and leg and other injuries. She had previously been a very active young woman, but seemed not to recover entirely from this accident. She passed away April 24, 1906, and was laid away in the Maple Grove cemetery in Comstock township. She was a beautiful young woman and a lovely mother.

Upon the death of his wife, DeHuron Ellwood brought his motherless children back to the old home where his mother and sisters still lived, and, with their help, the children were reared to manhood and womanhood.

In 1899, Mr. Ellwood had joined the Burr Oak Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. He filled all the chairs and regularly attended all the meetings. In 1903, he represented the local lodge of

this organization at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Saginaw, Michigan.

Though deprived of their mother when they were small, Mr. Ellwood raised his children as he himself had been raised, to keep their word, observe the Golden Rule and act honorably with all men.

He was an omnivorous reader, preferring history. He had made a thorough study of the Civil War. In the earlier days the Stroughs had favored the Methodist Church and one of their number, Joseph, was a Methodist minister, but later generations leaned toward the Unitarians. This was true of Mrs. Ellwood and her mother before her. The Ellwood children attended a Sunday school in the Maple Grove School House conducted by the Reverend C. A. Hemingway, a Baptist minister. They also attended for a time the Portage Street Baptist Church.

In personal appearance, Mr. Ellwood was about five feet, five inches tall, of slender build with brown hair and blue eyes. He was highly respected and honored by the people of the community. He was a man of good judgment and industrious, continuing to be active up to his last illness.

Death came to him December 28, 1942, and burial was in Maple Grove cemetery beside his wife.

Gibson Sumner Ellwood



G I B S O N S U M N E R E L L W O O D

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Gibson Sumner Ellwood was born in Comstock township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, February 13, 1861, son of James Wilson Ellwood, who was born in Montgomery county, state of New York, May 10, 1822, and his wife, Nancy Ann Strough Ellwood, who was born in Jefferson county, state of New York, March 27, 1825. They were married December 14, 1848.

In the "Manuscript and History Section" of the New York State Library is the following record:

"Baldus Strauch (Strough) came from Hesse, Germany, in the year 1777. He was one of the hired Hessians in Burgoyne's army that was surrendered by him at Saratoga in 1777. Instead of returning to Germany he escaped and settled in Montgomery county, New York. About the year 1790, he settled in Manheim, Herkimer county, New York. He married Mary Catherine Ritter, a woman of German Palatine descent. Their children were: Jacob, Baldus, John, Nancy, Henry, Daniel and Matthias. Although the father spelled his name Strauch, as in Germany, all of the children spelled it Strough." This then is the

beginning of the Strough family in America. One of the descendants of the Strough family was a Methodist minister. Later the Stroughs became Unitarians.

The original name of the Ellwood family is said to have been "Ethelwalde." James Wilson Ellwood's father, General Isaac Ellwood, was a native of Montgomery county, state of New York, and was a Colonel in the War of 1812, being under Jacob Brown at Sackett's Harbor. Later he was appointed General. He died at the age of fifty-five in Morristown, New York.

The father of General Isaac Ellwood and the great grandfather of Gibson Ellwood, the subject of this biography, was Isaac Ellwood, Sr., who fought in the War of the Revolution and was wounded in the shoulder.

The father of Isaac Ellwood, Sr., emigrated from his native county of Kent, England, to the United States of America, in company with two brothers, at the time of the French Revolution, and located in the state of New York.

Annie Wilson Ellwood, grandmother of Gibson Ellwood, was born of Scotch parents in the state of New York and became the wife of Isaac Ellwood, Jr., in Montgomery county, New York.

James Wilson Ellwood, father of Gibson Ellwood, and son of Isaac Ellwood, Jr., at the age of thirteen accompanied his parents from Montgomery county to St. Lawrence county, New York, where Isaac, Jr., died when James was eighteen years of age. The Ellwoods, in earlier days, favored the Episcopal Church but later leaned toward the Unitarians.

James and Nancy Strough Ellwood came to Michigan in 1855, January 2, and settled on the farm in section 30, Comstock township, where they endured all the hardships of pioneering, but gained a comfortable home and a good living. Two of their children were born in the state of New York and came with the parents to Michigan. They were:

Joseph Marvin, born November 5, 1849, married Helen M. Cooper November 9, 1872, and they became the parents of Edith Claire, Marlin James, De Huron and Otto Sumner: and

Mary Catherine, born March 20, 1853:

After they came to Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. James Ellwood became the parents of:

DeHuron Benton, born October 24, 1858, married Uretta Nelson August 11, 1885 - she was born July 6, 1861 - and they became the parents of
Nelson James, born October 31, 1890,
Millard Marvin, born September 3, 1894,
Maude Winnifred. born June 9, 1900;

Gibson Sumner, the subject of this biography;

Helen Augusta, born July 2, 1863, while the Battle of Gettysburg was raging; and

Imogene Estelle, born January 27, 1866.

Gibson Sumner Ellwood was married January 5, 1892, to Miss Aurilla Elizabeth Wilson by the Reverend J. A. Johnston. She was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, December 5, 1871, the daughter of a Civil War veteran, Jacob Henry Wilson, who was born January 17, 1837, and died in 1916, and Lucinda Warner, who was born January 9, 1846, and died in March, 1894. Jacob Henry Wilson was the son of John and Elizabeth Sanders Wilson. Lucinda Warner was the daughter of William and Aurilla Olds Warner. The Olds family owned considerable property on both sides of the St. Lawrence river.

Jacob Henry Wilson and Lucinda Warner were married December 28, 1863, and became the parents of:

- Myron Ellwood, born November 6, 1864, married
 - (1) Lena Adelaide Becraft, who died in a short time,
 - (2) Julia Knerr of Kalamazoo, Michigan, who became the mother of
 - (1) Dr. Virginia Wilson,
 - (2) Ellen, who married Rudolph Vander-Veer and became the mother of John Loren, James Frederick and Peter Wilson and resides in Rome, New York;

John, deceased in infancy;

Loren, deceased in infancy;

Aurilla, born December 5, 1871, married Gibson Sumner Ellwood and became the mother of Maxine;

Sanders Henry, born March 8, 1874, married (1) Rena Davenport, (2) Martha Robinson, who died June 24, 1943 - resided in Indianapolis, Indiana;

Will Aubrey, born August 19, 1879, married Mary Robb and they became the parents of Beryl, who married Charles Record, Robb and Herbert K., reside in Casnovia, New York;

Elzaida Rivers, born July 29, 1882, married John B. Wilson and resides in Los Angeles, California; and

Myrtle Ione, born December 21, 1885, married Roy Kromdyk and they became the parents of twins Everett and Evelyn.

Myron Ellwood Wilson came to Michigan and was employed by his uncle Wesley Warner some time prior to the coming of the rest of his father's family, who arrived in 1889. Grandfather Warner had also come to Michigan prior to that date and was living near Lawton at a place then known as White Oak. He and his family were pioneers in this part of Michigan. His wife lived only a short time after coming to Michigan.

Jacob Henry Wilson and family, except Myron, arrived in Kalamazoo May 1, 1889, stayed over night and went on to White Oak the next day. A year later they returned to Kalamazoo and eventually made their home at 1140 James street, where their daughter Aurilla and Gibson Sumner Ellwood were married, near where the mother, Lucinda Warner Wilson died about

1894. Jacob Henry Wilson returned to the state of New York, where he died in 1916.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibson (often called "Dick") Ellwood began housekeeping on Kromdyk court in Kalamazoo and moved from there to a small house at 1210 James street. Later they moved several times, residing at one time on the Smith Carleton farm in Comstock township and at another time near Mountain Home cemetery. They finally bought the house at 1210 James street and remodelled it. They became the parents of: Loren James, Dow Warner and two daughters, all of whom died in infancy; and Maxine Eileen, born May 17, 1907, who attended Parsons Business College and is now in 1943 a private secretary in the office of the Sutherland Paper Company, Kalamazoo.

Mr. Gibson Ellwood was once a school teacher. He worked for some time as a wood worker for Dewings in Kalamazoo. For one year he was employed in Buffalo, New York, and moved his family there and then returned to Kalamazoo and was employed by the Loose Leaf Binder Company until his death June 20, 1910.

The funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Henry Gelston, D. D., pastor of the First

Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo, and burial was in Maple Grove cemetery near the old farm home.

In personal appearance Mr. Gibson Ellwood was of medium height and weight, with blue eyes and hair that was white from early manhood.

In politics he was a staunch Republican. For recreation he enjoyed fishing. He was a great reader, especially of history. He was genial and companionable, well liked by his friends and business associates, who found in him a man who kept his word, a man of integrity and honorable in all his dealings. Short though his life was, it was rich and full in devotion to his home and his willingness to be of service in the world.

Frank E. Ellsworth



CHIDNOFF
NEW YORK

F R A N K E E L L S W O R T H

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Frank E. Ellsworth was born in Richmond Township, Macomb County, Michigan, April 17, 1873, and attended the public schools there. He did his undergraduate work at Michigan State Normal College, Ypsilanti, and Alma College where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1917. He did graduate work at the University of Michigan from which he received the degree of Master of Arts. He also attended Columbia University and during a year spent abroad did further work in the field of education.

Mr. Ellsworth had a wide experience in education. He taught in the rural schools of Michigan and in the schools of his home town, Armada. He was superintendent of schools in Memphis, Michigan, for two years, in Harbor Beach for six years, at Alma for nine years and at Hastings for one year. He came to Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo, February 1, 1916, and served as Director of Teacher Training and Chairman of Placement Committee until his death.

Mr. Ellsworth served as president of the Michigan Education Association and was active on various

committees of that organization. For a long time he was a member of the Schoolmaster's club and served as a member of its board. He was also a member of the Michigan Superintendent's Association and the Michigan Council of Education. Among the honorary fraternities of which he was a member were Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Delta Kappa and Phi Delta Phi. For some years Mr. Ellsworth worked with the architect, Mr. Ernest Batterson, Kalamazoo, in building school houses in Michigan.

Mr. Ellsworth had one sister, Mrs. Ella Conlon, Detroit, and one brother, Bert Ellsworth, principal of the Russell school in Detroit, Michigan, and one nephew, Ben Ellsworth, of Detroit.

He married Zora Mack Perkey, of Charlotte, Michigan, in 1904. They are the parents of Miss Ruth Ellsworth, a teacher in the public schools of Bronxville, New York.

Mr. Ellsworth was a member of the Kiwanis club and was active in many civic affairs. He was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo, where he served as superintendent of the Sunday school, trustee and elder.

The following tribute was published in "The Teachers College Herald" and was written by Miss

Edith G. Seekell, who had worked with Mr. Ellsworth many years while she was supervisor in the training school and had charge of planning curricula in the training school:

"To us it seems that few school leaders could be as sincerely mourned and missed as Frank Ellsworth. Frank Ellsworth was loved and respected by all people in the training school, workers, faculty, students, and children. On the lips of many, daily, are appreciations of his unfailing interest, his kindly, friendly thoughtfulness. The sense of loss is very deep, and will be lasting. All have recourse, after the first sharp sense of sudden loss, to reverie and memories. We seek to couch in words for saving, a sense of those things that displayed the essence of his character and personality, and here we find some simple enduring patterns, for our continued guidance. Scraps of conversation, remembered consultations, glints of charming and rich humor, the salt of wise advice and shared experience - these, all of us will crystallize and cherish for ourselves and our own group.

Mr. Ellsworth was rarely gifted with social graces, and of the most genuine kind. Blessed in his family life, he carried those fatherly qualities into his daily living in his school, in his work with teachers, students and children. It was his delight to look about and see and point out to others the peculiar gifts of each of his teachers, and these he sought to develop by opportunity, encouragement, and keen appreciation. Many are saying that they did their best work in this atmosphere.

A tolerant and progressive outlook, strengthened by broad reading and scholarship made him open minded to foster and encourage initiative and freedom among his teachers. With the same reverence for personality, student teachers were placed thoughtfully where they best fitted, and graduates were

placed and replaced with the same tactful care.

The children from big to little loved, admired and respected their principal, and have felt free to consult him singly and in delegations, on many a knotty problem as they would a father.

There are patterns, then, for carrying on. Things for a long time to come can be 'as Mr. Ellsworth would have wished, or approved.' His warm, genial, genuinely helpful personality will partake of immortality, always in this school and among those who have known and loved him"

Death came to Mr. Ellsworth while on the way to his work, May 20, 1938. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend John Wirt Dunning, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, and burial was in the Maple Hills Cemetery at Charlotte, Michigan.

Written in November, 1938.

Clarence Willard Emery



C L A R E N C E W I L L A R D E M E R Y

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Clarence Willard Emery was born in Plainwell, Michigan, February 11, 1884, son of Cyrus and Emma Jane Camp Emery, who were farmers. He was educated in the Plainwell schools, after which he came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and was employed by the Kalamazoo Creamery Company, for whom he worked the remainder of his life except for one year when he was employed by Benjamin Cleenewerck.

February 8, 1908, he was married to Edna Ives, who was born in Monteith, Michigan, July 7, 1889, daughter of Fred and Ida Allen Ives, and was educated in the school at Martin, Michigan. They became the parents of:

Clarence Wilmer, who was born October 27, 1909, married Isabel Sweeney and became the father of twins, Ronald Bertram and Richard Bernard, born [redacted] ;

Frederick Wright, born November 9, 1913, was married and became the father of Jacqueline Kay, born July 21, 1936;

Wynona, born August 2, 1922. All the children reside in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Clarence Willard Emery was musical and sang first tenor in a Moose quartet, known as the Monarch

Singing Four and filled many engagements. He belonged at one time to the Moose lodge and was one of Kalamazoo's leading enthusiasts in bowling. He was secretary of the fourteen team Thursday night Recreational bowling league and did such a fine job as secretary that at the league's annual meeting he was made permanent secretary at a substantial increase in salary. He became a member of the first bowling team in Kalamazoo and also served as vice president of the Kalamazoo City Bowling League.

In personal appearance, Mr. Emery was about five feet, eleven inches tall, had dark brown hair and blue eyes. Death came to him in a traffic accident near Bremen, Indiana, about twelve miles south of South Bend, Indiana, while driving a Kalamazoo Creamery truck over his route, November 29, 1940.

He was survived by his family and his mother and one sister living in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Richard F. Barram and burial was in Mt. Ever Rest. This was written in 1941.

Wm P. Engleman



L. E. Robinson
24

WILLIAM P. ENGELMAN

May 17, 1856 -- October 5, 1938

William P. Engelman was born in Kalamazoo on May 17, 1856, the son of Christian Engelman, a carpenter, who came to Kalamazoo in 1853 from Hanover, Germany. Mr. Engelman spent his entire life in this city and died October 5, 1938 at his home on the corner of Burdick and Water Streets, within fifty feet of the place where he was born.

After attending school in Kalamazoo, Mr. Engelman became a moulder, following that trade for sixteen years. He was in the retail business for a number of years, but it was in connection with the promotion of harness horse races that he achieved his greatest success and made the record in which he took the greatest pride.

In 1903 he was made Secretary and Manager of Recreation Park, a mile race track located on Lake Street, east of the city. After giving three meetings on the Great Western Circuit, Kalamazoo in 1908 joined the Grand Circuit and for twenty-four consecutive years gave a race meeting annually. In 1924 Mr. Engelman put on the first pacing race for a purse of \$25,000.00 ever given in the world, and for seven years the Kalamazoo Pacing Derby made horse history and was the greatest racing event of the year. At that time Kalamazoo gave \$65,000 in purses for a five day race meeting and the finest harness horses in the world were brought here each summer. These meetings

continued until 1931 when racing at Recreation Park was abandoned, but until the time of his death Mr. Engelman continued as Secretary and Manager of Recreation Park.

Another thing which always gave Mr. Engelman pride was the fact that he was the last surviving member of Kalamazoo's first paid Fire Department, organized in 1877, his pay at that time being \$35.00 per month and he being subject to call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Mr. Engelman married twice but had no children; his first wife, Lena, passing away in 1920. He is survived by his widow, Ella Miller Engelman.



h. F. Robinson

M R S. E M M A H A R M O N E N S F I E L D

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There were two generations of pioneers in western Michigan, as elsewhere. The adults, who came away from established domestic and social life, and their children who were to mature before any comparable growth agencies could be set up on the frontier. The parents planned and worked to beget again in the wilderness the material and social satisfaction of civilized living. This was necessary to fill the pattern of life they had inherited. But more important to them was the demonstration and transmission of true conceptions of material and spiritual welfare to their children. Both the bodies and the spirits of their offspring must be nourished.

Emma Harmon was a true example of the second generation of pioneers. Her parents were Reverend and Mrs. Austin Harmon, who came about 1850 to work in Allegan and Van Buren counties in Michigan as missionaries. He was from New York and had the hardihood to undertake circuit riding on the frontier along Lake Michigan. She was a Boston Grosvenor,

admirably equipped by family tradition and personal qualities. Her father and grandfather had been outstanding ministers in Boston. They worked and lived among the fine pioneers of their area, most of whom had come from New York State.

Emma was one of five children, four of whom grew to maturity. When the young father died the mother remained in Michigan and did the best she could for her children. Relatives on both sides of the family left bequests of money, furniture, clothing silver, books and household articles, but these were not adequate, so at an early age Emma had to stay with other families. Some were kind and gave her fair treatment, even love. Some made her do the work of a grown person. Her hands were beautifully shaped and small, but they showed she had never faltered at any task. No matter how much strength of body or spirit were required she gave it until it characterized her whole life, and her intimates said, "She could do everything."

Her schooling was in the district and town schools and the quality of her fine mental endowment was revealed in the beautiful literary selections which she committed to memory from her school reading books. All her life she loved to recite these classics, and her recreation was reading. The

Kalamazoo Public Library was indeed an endowment for her mind when she became a resident here in her later life. Travel, history, biography and fiction regaled her spirit. No more appropriate gift could have been given to the library in her memory than "Forty Years in Labrador" by Dr. Grenfell and "Sunrise to Evening Star" by Mariana King.

Her service to others throughout her whole life was her outstanding characteristic. Her husband, Christopher Ensfield, her children, two sons and a daughter, and her grandchildren found in her a never failing strength, courage and intelligent co-operation and comradeship. The beautiful conceptions of the best in human service with which her reading and her wide personal participations had filled her mind and lighted her imagination came to fruition in her own life. She had the rare gift of utter devotion to such simple but transcendent virtues as cleanliness, thrift, honesty, unselfishness and active love. Because of the transparent clarity of her character, she was a veritable magnet for righteousness for her family and her many friends. Home, church, school, welfare and literary groups, and even many chance acquaintances caught the inspiration of her noble life. Thus she lives in many lives.

Written Dec. 23, 1936 by Dr. Ernest Burnham



Claude Myers Evans

C L A U D E M Y E R S E V A N S

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Saturday, April 22, 1944, Mrs. Anne Lixvar Evans, residing at 124 Den Bleyker Place, Kalamazoo, Michigan, was advised by the navy department of the United States that her husband, Lieutenant Claude Myers Evans, lost his life when his plane crashed in the Carribean Area Thursday, April 20, 1944.

Claude Myers Evans, (Jack), grandson of J. B. Evans, (Jack), always a close bond of affection between them, was born July 12, 1916, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, son of Claude Crane Evans, who was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, November 23, 1894, the son of John Beasley and Ida D. Crane Evans, of English descent.

Claude's mother was Marie Myers Evans, who was born in Auburn, Indiana, March 1, 1895, the daughter of Phillip Oliver and Flora Porter Myers.

Claude had one sister, Dorothy Elaine, born January 14, 1921, in Kalamazoo, Michigan, married Doyle L. Fike and became the mother of Doyle Evans Fike, born October 5, 1943.

When Claude was about two months old the

family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Mr. and Mrs. Evans have since resided and eventually made their home, which they now occupy, at 923 Roseland avenue, at the time of this writing in 1944.

Claude Myers attended the Harding, Edison and Washington Schools in Kalamazoo and then was graduated from Central High School in 1935. In that fall he entered Western Michigan College of Education and earned approximately three years credits in preparation for flying.

Even in high school Claude was interested in flying and his special project was to make model planes. He became a member of the first Civil Aeronautics classes to be organized in Western Michigan College of Education.

For two years Mr. Evans worked for the Durametallic Corporation. Jack was always quite proud of the fact that this corporation was anxious to have him return to their employ following the war. During this time Jack continued his training in preparation for flying, which was very thorough, from the ground up.

As a flying cadet in the armed services of the United States, he went to Grosse Ile in September 1940 and took a month's training. December 5, 1940, he reported for training at Pensacola, Florida,

where he received his wings in May, 1941, and then remained as instructor. In June, 1942, he was made Lieutenant, junior grade, and in March, 1943, a full Lieutenant.

In January, 1943, Lt. Evans visited his parents' home in Kalamazoo and on January 5, was taken down with pneumonia and spent from February 22nd until March 26th, 1943, in Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, the first Navy patient. He reported at Pensacola, Florida, the 1st of May following.

In the fall of 1939, Jack first met Anne Lixvar while they were both attending Western Michigan College of Education, and from which she was later graduated. Anne was born in Benton Harbor, Michigan, June 22, 1919, the daughter of Peter and Mary Pavlick Lixvar of Czechoslovakian descent, who were the parents of six children. Jack and Anne were married in Pensacola, Florida, March 5, 1942, and resided there until October, 1943, at which time Jack received his orders for overseas duty. A son, Jack Ronald, was born at Pensacola Naval Hospital on [REDACTED].

While instructor in Pensacola, Florida, Jack was attached to Saufley Field 1-D during its entire commission.

After reaching the Carribean Area Lieutenant Jack Myers Evans took over the duties of executive officer of the squadron.

While flying in the Carribean Area in a plane of which Lt. Evans was the pilot, the motor quit and the plane crashed about forty-five miles from his base and he lost his life April 20, 1944.

Personal Characteristics

Lieutenant Evans was about five feet eight inches tall, weighed about one hundred forty-five pounds and had brown curly hair and blue eyes.

He was a Boy Scout and at fifteen joined the Sea Scouts and played the drum in the bugle corps. As he grew older he retained his interest in the Sea Scouts, preparing candidates for admission.

Lt. Evans was fond of reading fiction, biography and history. He read Les Miserables by Victor Hugo when he was but sixteen years of age. He liked classical music.

He enjoyed sailing, skating, ice-boating and skiing. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing, gardening and landscaping. The game of chess had a great fascination for him. He played by mail an opponent who was aboard ship, requiring a month to make a move. Jack lost his life before the game was finished.

The bond of affection between Jack and his wife was unusually strong, and both of them lavished their love upon their son, Jack Ronald. Their home life was a beautiful one. Such homes are the basis of the kind of civilization which is in keeping with the American tradition.

Lt. Evans was very fond of pets and the family remembers when as a boy he had a mischievous crow which he enjoyed. He was witty, droll, full of humor and cheerful and held his friends with his attractive personality and his remarkable understanding of human nature.

He had applied himself so carefully and skillfully to the art of flying that with over two thousand hours of flying time he had never had an accident.

As a lad he became a choir boy in St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo, and served for three years, greatly interested in the choir and attending the choir boy camps. He was confirmed as a member and belonged to its youth fellowship.

The following is a copy of a letter received by Mrs. Evans:

The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air)

Washington

May 5, 1944.

(Continued on next page)

My dear Mrs. Evans:

It is with deep regret that I learned of the death of your husband, Lieutenant Claude Evans, in an aviation accident. You have my heartfelt sympathy for I realize what a severe loss you have suffered.

Your husband had achieved a splendid record in naval aviation. He was an experienced naval aviator and had flown over two thousand hours without accident. His loss will be keenly felt by the organization and by all his friends and shipmates.

Words are of little help at such a time, but it is my hope that the knowledge of your husband's loyalty to our country and his patriotic participation in the essential work of the aviation branch of its defense forces will strengthen and comfort you in your sorrow. You have the deepest sympathy of the officers and men of naval aviation.

Sincerely yours,

J. S. McCain

Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy

Mrs. C. M. Evans
923 Roseland Ave.
Kalamazoo, Mich.

The following is a copy of another letter received by Mrs. Evans:

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER
UNITED STATES NAVAL STATION

Navy No. 115
c/o Fleet Post Office
New York, N. Y.

(Continued on next page)

June 12, 1944.

Mrs. Anne Lixvar Evans
923 Roseland Avenue,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Mrs. Evans:

On Memorial Day this year at
Navy No. 115 the following services were
conducted in the Cemetery where your husband,
Lieutenant Claude Myers Evans, A-V(N), USNR.,
is buried:

Funeral March.
Invocation.
Address.
Hymn - "Lead Kindly Light" during which
flowers were placed on each grave.
Prayer and blessing of the graves.
Benediction.
Volleys.
Taps.
Star Spangled Banner.

We are sending you the enclosed
pictures of the ceremony at the Cemetery so
that your husband is not forgotten.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Gregory
Captain, U. S. Navy,
Commanding Officer, Naval Station.

JWG:ctp

Roland James Fairchild



R O L A N D J A M E S F A I R C H I L D

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Roland James Fairchild was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, April 26, 1876, son of John and Mary Lunn Fairchild of English descent. He had one brother, Charles, who resides in Kalamazoo.

Roland attended the public schools of Kalamazoo after which he studied architecture for a time with C. A. Fairchild; then went with his brother-in-law in the F. J. Humphrey Company, making water-lifts for pumping rain water with city water pressure. In 1910 Mr. Fairchild purchased the National Water-lift Company and re-designed the water-lift, securing his own patent.

In 1919 he invented the Kalamazoo Electric Pump, which he manufactured in four sizes, for pumping well water for farmers and suburban residents, covered by United States and Canadian patents. He used bronze bearings and bronze cylinders with gray iron caps so that in case of freezing the caps would break and the cylinders would not be damaged. He clung tenaciously to this feature in spite of the fact that cast iron cylinders could be sold at a lower price. Many of

his water-lifts have been in use for thirty-two years and still operate as well as when first installed. About 1930 he designed a gear-driven deep well pump and later a gearless deep well pump, all covered with his own patents.

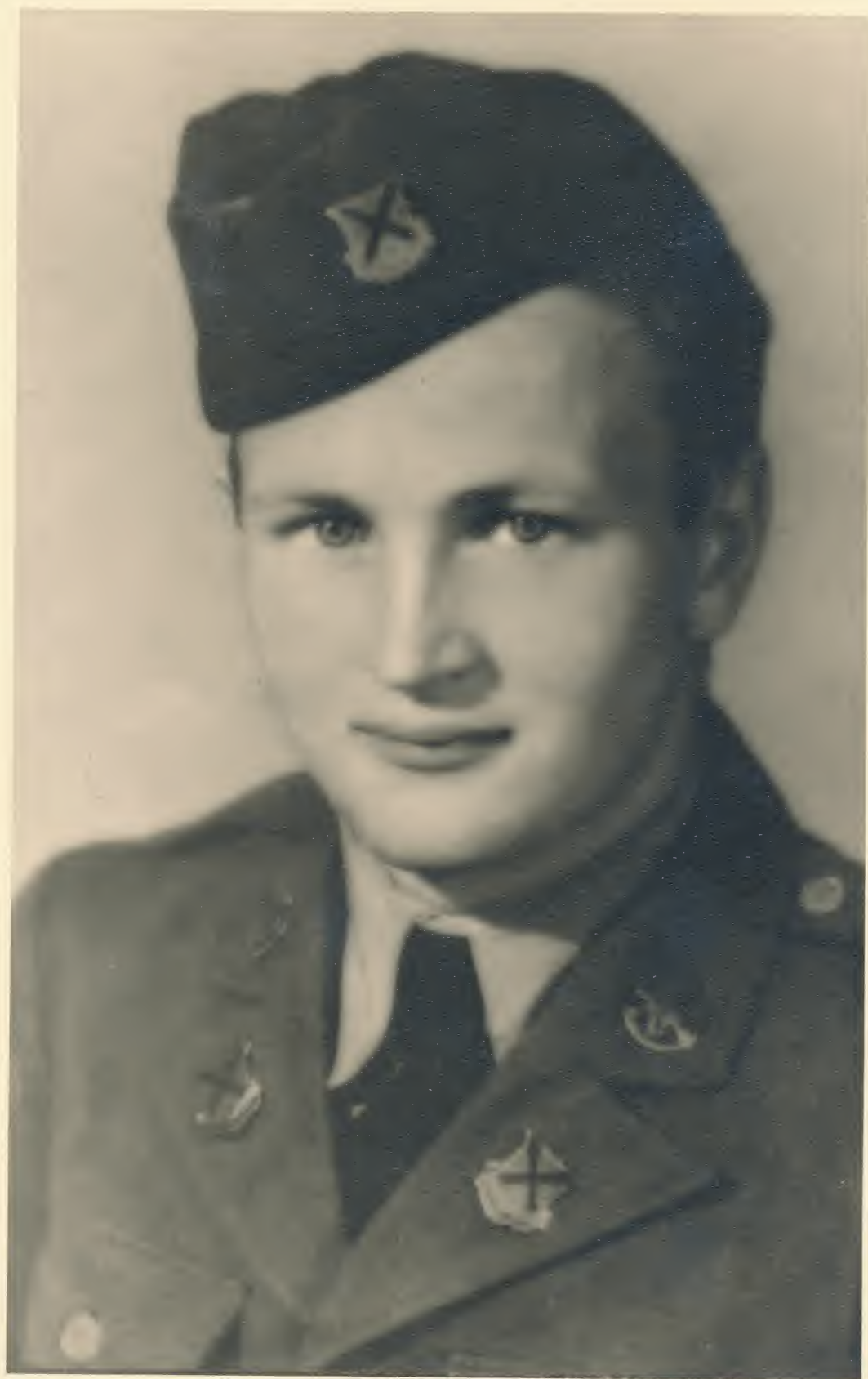
September 17, 1910, he was married to Charlene Fogarty, a granddaughter of Charles Cooper, who was a trustee of Kalamazoo College. One daughter came to gladden the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild, Jane Margaret, who was born March 13, 1914 and died April 7, 1923.

Mr. Fairchild was a member of the Elks lodge and at one time of the Knights of Pythias. Formerly he belonged to the Exchange Club and the Chamber of Commerce.

He was an ardent Jeffersonian Democrat and repeatedly served on election boards. He belonged to a hunting club and enjoyed hunting and fishing, many times going to Northern Michigan to hunt deer. He was a fancier of fine dogs, a lover of nature and fond of flowers. He attended the First Presbyterian Church with his wife, who was a member.

Death came to Mr. Fairchild June 2, 1942. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, D. D., and interment was in Mountain Home.

Leigh Chester Fauce



L E I G H C H E S T E R F A U N C E

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Leigh Chester Faunce was born in Plainwell, Michigan, March 20, 1921, the son of Leigh Edward and Inez Belle Wilcox Faunce of French and English ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Faunce were married in Plainwell, Michigan, December 13, 1915. He was born in Plainwell, Michigan, July 30, 1879, and she was born in Paw Paw, Michigan, July 5, 1896. He passed away December 24, 1929.

By a former marriage, Mrs. Faunce had two children:

Charles Powers, born June 1, 1913, who married Evelyn Whitmore and they became the parents of
Ronald Louis, born [redacted]
Charles Eugene, born October 21, 1935, &
Sharon Lee, born [redacted];

Gladys Powers, born May 11, 1915, married Alfred Osborne and they became the parents of
Joan Lee, born May 26, 1933, and
Stanley Edward, born June 21, 1938.

Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Edward Faunce also became the parents of:

Inez May, born November 15, 1918, married Bernard Draper and they became the parents of
Richard Edward, born [redacted]
Ann Louise, born September 13, 1937,
Walter Leroy, born [redacted], and
Stuart Leigh, born [redacted];

Betty, born May 29, 1924, married Bernard Wiswell, who is now, 1943, in the Air Corps of the United States Armed forces;

Joyce Elaine, born [REDACTED];

Letha Lucille, born April 9, 1930.

Leigh Chester Faunce attended the Bridge Street School in Plainwell, Michigan, until his parents moved to a near by farm, after which he attended the "Finch School" through the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades and then enrolled in the Plainwell High School and did the work of the Freshman and Sophomore years.

He enlisted in Company C, 126th Infantry of the National Guards and was with the first outgoing contingent from Kalamazoo, Michigan, October 15, 1940, for Camp Beauregard, Louisiana. He saw heavy fighting in New Guinea and was killed in action in the Buna Mission theater of the Second World War December 2, 1942.

Corporal Leigh Faunce was five feet, eight inches in height, with blonde hair and blue eyes and possessed a lively, jolly, intensely interesting personality.

His hobby was farming and when in high school he belonged to the Future Farmers of America. He was an expert swimmer. As a lad he attended the Baptist Sunday school in Plainwell. While in high

school he attended, with other neighborhood young people, the Christian Endeavor at Alamo, Michigan. While stationed in Louisiana, Leigh came under the influence of his chaplain and joined the Lutheran Church.

In his home, Leigh was kind and considerate of his mother and the children of the family. He was popular with the young people in school and the surrounding community and was generous in his relations with them. He was eager to live and enjoy life with the zest common to healthy young manhood. Yet he risked it all for his country which sent to his mother the "Purple Heart."

The people of Kalamazoo and Plainwell take pride in this National Guardsman, who bravely fought to preserve and maintain democracy on the earth.

All honor to Leigh Chester Faunce!

The following is a copy of the official
military record of Leigh Chester Faunce:

State of Michigan
Adj. Gen's Office

Lansing 24 March, 1944.

I certify that the following appears in the
official records of this office pertaining to

L E I G H C H E S T E R F A U N C E
who enlisted in the Michigan National Guard
on the 6th day of June, 1940 at

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

Enlisted in Company C, 126th Infantry, as a
Private June 6, 1940,

Inducted Federal Service October 15, 1940

ASN420634403

Enlistment period extended 18 months

Killed in action near Buna, New Guinea,
December 2, 1942.

Buried near Buna, New Guinea,
December 3, 1942.

LeRoy Pearson,
Brigadier General,
The Adj't. Gen. of Michigan.

Robert Charles Fawley



ROBERT CHARLES FAWLEY

1927 - 1945

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Private Robert Charles Fawley, 572356, Company K, 3rd Battalion, United States Fourth Marine Corps, Sixth Division, was killed by enemy small-arms fire on June 12, 1945, just south of the city of Naha on Okinawa.

A letter from Robert's Chaplain says Robert was killed "in a campaign where so many of our men were badly mutilated by enemy mortar and artillery fire, it is at least good to know that your son was spared that kind of death."

The Chaplain writes further:

"Robert's body rests in the beautiful Sixth Marine Division Cemetery #1, on Okinawa. It is a singularly beautiful spot, on a hillside overlooking the East China Sea. It is the most impressive cemetery that I have seen. I have held funeral services at your son's graveside, and have committed his splendid spirit to God's precious keeping."

Robert entered the service November 20, 1944, soon after his seventeenth birthday, and received his boot training at Parris Island, South Carolina, and further training at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Oceanside, and Camp Pendleton. He was home on

furlough for seven days in February 1945 before leaving for overseas duty. His last letter received by his parents June 12, 1945, was dated June 2, 1945.

Birth and Education

Robert Charles Fawley was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, January 26, 1927, son of Don George Fawley, who was born in Wabash, Indiana, December 20, 1903, and his wife, Doris Lapham Fawley, who was born in Kalamazoo county September 26, 1902. Don's people moved to Kalamazoo when he was a baby and this city has been his home ever since.

Mr. and Mrs. Don George Fawley were married in St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church and have resided for some time at 903 Maple street, where they make their home now in 1946. They also became the parents of:

Donald Jack, born January 3, 1926, entered army service in 1944, was in combat in Italy and is now with the Army of Occupation in Germany;

Ralph George, born December 21, 1928; and

Howard Gene, born March 1, 1930.

Robert Charles attended the Oakwood School and finished the ninth grade at the Vine Street School and entered Central High School in his sophomore year. Leaving school he worked for the Peter Pan

Bakery and later at the Kalamazoo Creamery.

Personal Characteristics

Robert Charles was nearly six feet tall, was well built and weighed about one hundred seventy pounds. He had brown hair and blue eyes.

When he was fourtenn years old he and Donald, his brother, caddied at the Country Club Golf Course and earned money to buy a Model A Ford automobile. When he was sixteen he bought for himself a 1935 Chevrolet. He took several sight seeing trips with his car, taking his brothers and friends.

Another one of his interests was hunting and one year he went deer hunting. He liked to swim, dance, fish and go to the movies.

He was a jolly, fun-loving boy, always ready for a good time and a good talk with a pal. His home was a center of attraction for the boys of the neighborhood and they had many good times together.

Robert attended St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo and was baptized by the Reverend Father James Horton Bishop.

He was affectionate in his home, kind toward other people, industrious, thrifty, saved his money, and was a fine, worthy young citizen of Kalamazoo.

His Chaplain said of him:

"Though he had recently arrived on this Island, and had been in this regiment only a few days, he had won a firm place in the hearts of officers and men, and he left behind many buddies who lament his death."

Another Gold Star was added to the Roll of Honor as Robert Charles Fawley laid down his life for his country.

Warren Glen Ferguson



WARREN GLEN FERGUSON

1921 - 1945

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Private First Class Warren Glen Ferguson, familiarly called "Bud", was killed in action on Iwo Jima February 20, 1945. On the same day and in the same battle Jack Kooi of Kalamazoo also met his death. They were both members of the United States Marine Corps and belonged to the Fifth Joint Assault Company. Warren's death occurred the day before his twenty-fourth birthday.

Military Experience

Warren Glen Ferguson was inducted into the Marine Corps January 5, 1944, and was sent immediately to the Marine Base at San Diego, California, for his boot training. He was next sent to Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, for signal corps training and was shipped to Hawaii in September 1944. From there he was shipped to Iwo Jima and stopped two nights enroute at Tinian in the Marianas where he met a friend from Kalamazoo, Michigan.

He reached Iwo Jima in February 1945 and was soon engaged in combat with the enemy. He wrote

to his wife on February 14 while on ship board and said they were headed for combat. They landed on February 19 and immediately engaged in battle. The next day he was killed in action.

Birth

Warren Glen Ferguson was born in Litchfield, Michigan, February 21, 1921, the son of Glen F. and Gladys Patterson Ferguson of mixed ancestry. He had a sister, Emelyn, who married Robert Linihan and resides now, 1946, at 213 Chicago Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Education

Warren attended Woodrow Wilson, Roosevelt and Central High Schools in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and was graduated from the last named in February 1939.

For some time after his graduation he worked with his father in the Associated Trucks and then became an employe of the Upjohn Company, which was much to his liking.

Marriage

February 8, 1941, Warren Glen Ferguson was married to Marie Hike, a native of Kalamazoo, born January 25, 1923. She was graduated from Central High School in 1941 and she and Warren had been sweethearts during their school days. They became the parents of: Kay Ellen, born November 27, 1941,

and Carole Ann, born December 31, 1942.

Personal Characteristics

Warren Glen Ferguson was five feet seven and one-half inches tall and weighed about one hundred forty pounds with dark brown hair and hazel eyes.

He enjoyed water sports, fishing and deer hunting. He had good training in the fundamentals of clean living, good sportsmanship and fair play, all of which made him a man of fine character.

Warren was kind and dependable in his relation with others, affectionate in his home and proud of his tiny daughters. He was ever considerate of his family and cared tenderly for their welfare.

He was a devoted member of St Augustine Roman Catholic Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan. His commanding officer, Major R. C. Power, of the United States Marine Corps, wrote to Mrs. Marie Ferguson and said of Warren:

"He was a fine man, a good Marine and we shall miss him sorely. . . Warren attended Mass every day aboard ship and his every action indicated that he was close to God. As a fellow Catholic I can understand the comfort this knowledge will bring you and the help it will be in reconciling his passing away. One feels close to those who made the supreme sacrifice."

From Norman Willcox, a buddy, comes these additional words:

"We have lost the best man in the team and that applies both in the line of duty and

out of the line of duty. . . On Iwo Jima 'Fergie' was called on to perform duties other than those regularly assigned. His efforts were tireless and unceasing . . . and our admiration is supreme for what he did."

The body of Warren Ferguson lies buried on Iwo Jima in the Fifth Division Cemetery, but in the hearts of Kalamazoo people who knew him and loved him for his sacrifice for them, the memory of his short but brave, true life will never die.

David Edward Fesler



D A V E E D W A R D F E S L E R

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Dave Edward Fesler was born in Comstock, Michigan, August 23, 1923, son of Edward and Agnes Ellen Frank Fesler. The father, Edward Fesler, was born April 19, 1883, near Iowa City, Iowa, son of William H., and Emma Figg Fesler, both of whom were of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. Edward Fesler went to school in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Agnes Ellen Frank, the mother of Dave Edward, was born in Edwardsville, Missouri, October 3, 1879, daughter of Robert and Matilda Murphy Frank of German descent. Agnes Ellen's great great grandmother died at sea and left two sons who were adopted by a friend of the family and their name was changed from Jones to Murphy. Agnes Ellen Frank attended school in Lutesville, Missouri.

Edward Fesler and Agnes Ellen Frank were married April 17, 1914, and began housekeeping in St. Louis, Missouri, where they resided for one year and in 1915 came to live at 817 Washington avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan; on August 19, 1919, they moved to Comstock, Michigan, and resided in a home two

doors from the location of thier present residence, which they built and occupied March 1, 1921.

Mr. and Mrs. Fesler had another son, William Clayton, who was born while they resided in Terrace Court in Kalamazoo, June 22, 1917, and died October 6, 1917.

Dave Edward started to school in Comstock and would have been graduated in June 1941, had he lived. From his earliest years he was very fond of music. He belonged to the High School Orchestra and the School Band, playing the saxophone. He also played in the orchestra led by Ted Fugman and in the band of the Eagle Lodge, making trips to Chicago and other places. He was also a member of Uncle Jay Gould's Happy Club and sang every Saturday afternoon at the Capitol Theater and he sang frequently for the church and the school and was a member of the Glee Club.

When a cyclone blew down a house in Comstock in August 1939, he and two other boys rescued a lady from the ruins and took her on a fire truck to Bronson Hospital.

As a babe he was baptized by the Reverend John Zohler in the Methodist Church and at the age of eight or nine years was received into full membership

from the the location of other present residents,

which they still are occupied since 1, 1927.

Mr. and Mrs. Fowler and another son, William

Winston, who was born while they resided in Vermont

near in Wisconsin, June 25, 1917, and died October

6, 1917.

David Edward resided in school in Vermont and

which have been graduated in 1941, and he lived

from his earliest years in the town of Maine.

He resided in the High School Orchestra and was

Senior Band, playing the saxophone. He also played

in the orchestra led by Ted Thomas and in the band

at the State Lodge, making trips to Chicago and

other places. He was also a member of Delta Psi

College's Glee Club and sang every Sunday afternoon

at the United Church and he sang frequently for the

church and the school and was a member of the Glee

Club.

John A. Johnson has been a house in Vermont

in August 1927, he and two other boys resided a lady

from the town and had her as a live-in house

Johnson Hospital.

He is a wife he was baptised by the Rev. John John

John in the Methodist Church and he was at

eight or nine years was baptised into full membership

in that communion. He took an active part in the program of the church and made a good record in school. One of his teachers, Mrs. Sheldon, was especially impressed with his character and ability and spoke of him with high praise. His music teacher, Jay Gould, wrote that God had taken him with all his dreams. Dave Edward had said one day to his mother, "If I live long enough, I'll get a college education and have an orchestra of my own."

November 9, 1939, Dave Edward Fesler, William Keeler and Charles M. Kephart, Jr., started in a car to go and fix a tire on another boy's car. It was during the noon recess and as the boys reached the Michigan Central Railroad they were struck by the fast Mercury train and killed.

The funeral was conducted by the Reverend A. T. Halsted and the Reverend R. D. Wearne and burial was in Riverside cemetery.

"The day is done, and the darkness
Falls from the wings of Night,
As a feather is wafted downward
From an eagle in its flight.

"And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away."

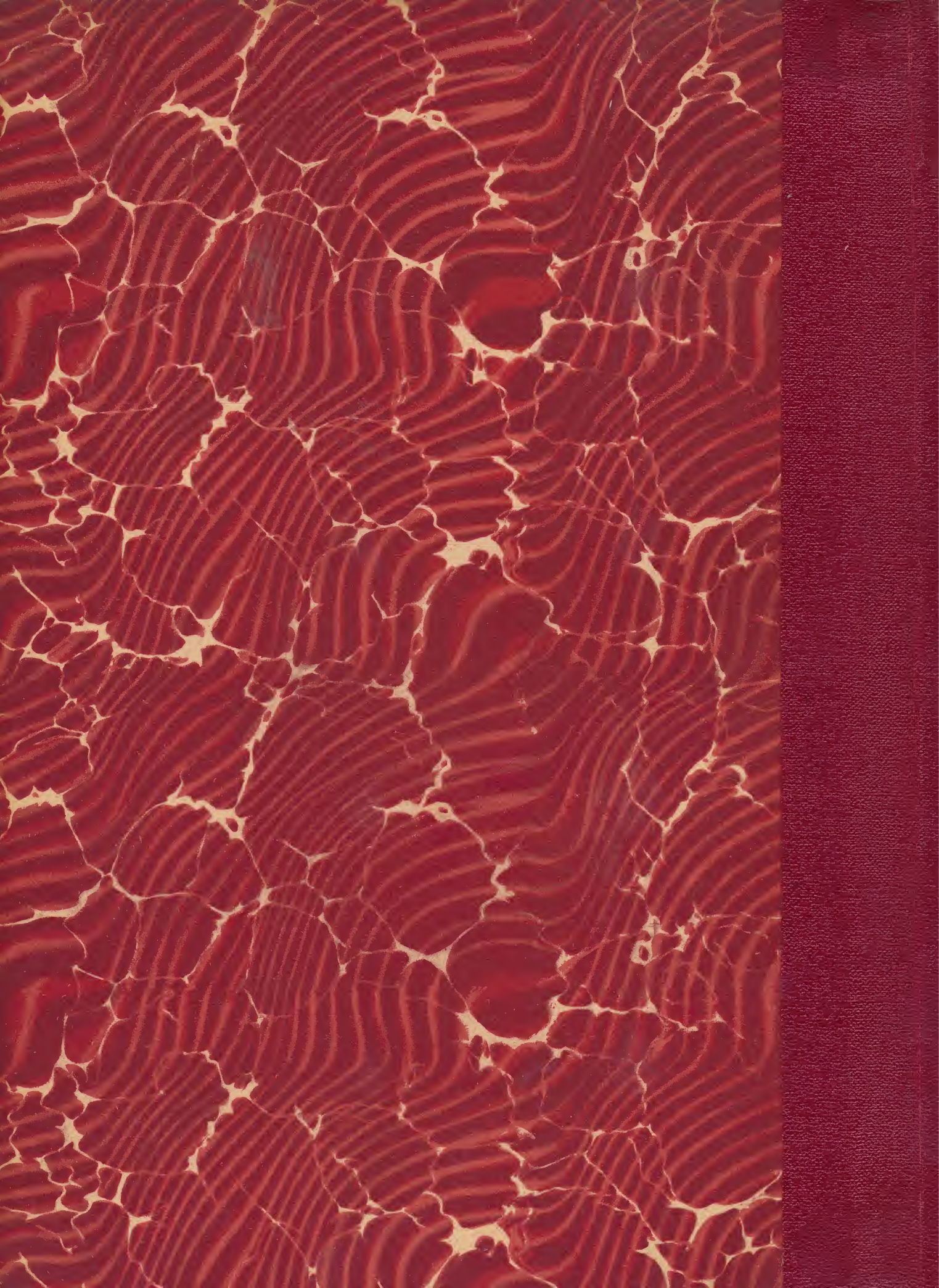
Henry W. Longfellow.

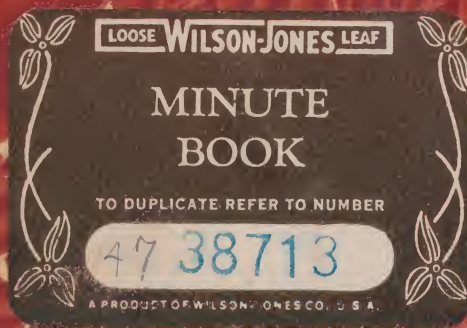
in the morning. He took an active part in the
 progress of the church and made a good record in
 school. One of his teachers, Mrs. Johnson, was
 especially impressed with his character and ability
 and spoke of him with high praise. He was a member
 of the church, where he had taken his place at his
 home. Mrs. Johnson had said that he was a
 student, "He is a fine young man, I'll bet a college
 education and have an orchestra of my own."
 November 7, 1902, Mrs. Johnson, William
 Joseph and Charles E. Johnson, Jr., attended in a car
 to go out five + five an answer boys car. It was
 during the noon recess and as the boys reached the
 station Central Railroad they were struck by the
 back of a car and killed.

The funeral was conducted by the Reverend J. T.
 Johnson and the Rev. Dr. J. C. Johnson and burial was
 in the cemetery.

The day is done, and the darkness
 falls from the wings of night,
 as a shadow is casted down
 from the wings of the night.

And the night shall be filled with music,
 and the stars shall shine like the
 stars of the night, like the stars
 and be silently of the night.
 Henry W. Longfellow.





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